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September 23, 2010  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

## Village Plans Tire Sweep at Walnut Creek

*Volunteers needed to help with cleanup*

CANAL WINCHESTER – The Village of Canal Winchester will hold its third annual tire sweep and creek cleanup along Walnut Creek from 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on October 16. Village staff will work with volunteers to remove tires from Walnut Creek between the Washington Street bridge and Walnut Woods Metro Park.

The event is being coordinated through the Village of Canal Winchester's Division of Storm Water and will help raise awareness to keep local waterways clean.

Community groups, businesses and individuals are encouraged to support this beautification effort by volunteering or lending items that can be used during the cleanup. Anyone interested in participating can sign up by contacting Bobbi Sumner at [bsumner@canalwinchesterohio.gov](mailto:bsumner@canalwinchesterohio.gov) or 614-834-5100. Volunteers are also welcome to show up the day of the event. The group will meet at 9 a.m. at the S. Gender Road water tower, near the Westchester Golf Course.

"We are asking anyone who has canoes or other small boats, hip or chest-high waders, or hand trowels to please bring them," said Canal Winchester Urban Forester Dick Miller, who will lead the village's volunteer efforts for the tire sweep. "Anyone who doesn't have proper gear or who doesn't want to get in the stream can still assist by helping to roll tires away."

The tire sweep is being held in conjunction with Metro Parks' stream cleanup project along Walnut Creek, where the waterway borders Walnut Woods Metro Park. Metro Parks has graciously agreed to dispose of 25 of the tires collected by the village.

Members of the Canal Winchester Rotary Club plan to volunteer at the event and have been working to get local tire stores involved in the effort. So far NTB has committed to shredding 50 tires and Don Hartman Inc. has agreed to make a donation toward the cost of shredding. Based on previous tire sweeps, the village anticipates pulling around 150 tires from Walnut Creek. Shredding costs usually run between \$3 and \$5 per tire.

According to Matt Peoples, Director of Public Works for the Village of Canal Winchester, "Tire dumping in the area has decreased due to the success of public awareness campaigns. Events such as this also help us meet our EPA requirements for storm water utilities."

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